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**Preparatory Committee for the United Nations
Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms
and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects**

Third session

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**Note verbale dated 4 April 2001 from the Permanent Mission of
Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the United Nations
Secretariat, transmitting drafting proposals on the revised draft
Programme of Action (A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1)**

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to request that the attached drafting proposals of Nigeria (see annex) on the revised draft Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its aspects (A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1) be circulated as a document of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference.



Annex

Drafting proposals submitted by Nigeria on document A/CONF.192/PC/L.4/Rev.1

Section II

The proposed language appears in *italics*.

Paragraph 4

Replace the word "adequate" by "*appropriate*" in line 1. Add the phrase "*where such laws exist, they should be strengthened to ensure adequate penalties for non compliance*".

Paragraph 8

To ensure accountability for, and *necessary* tracing of all weapons owned and issued by the State. Alternatively, paragraphs 8 and 16 should be merged.

Paragraph 10

Replace the word "adequate" by "*appropriate*" in line 1. The text would then read: To put in place appropriate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to ensure the effective control over the transfer of small arms and light weapons, including the use of authenticated end-user certificate, and enhanced legal and enforcement measures.

Paragraph 11

To ensure without prejudice to the right of States to re-export small arms and light weapons that they have previously imported, to inform the original State of such a transfer.

Paragraph 12

Replace "systems" in line 1 with "*Legislation*". The text should read in part: "To develop national *legislation* ...".

Paragraph 16

In line 4/5 "appropriate locations for stock pile" should be replaced by "*storage*". In the last line, "and procedures and sanctions" should be replaced by "*and procedures for accounting for thefts and losses*". Insert the word "*unique*" before "characteristics".

Paragraph 17

Replace the phrase "such stocks surplus to requirements" by "*stocks determined as surplus by government are clearly identified*". Also, replace "and that programmes for the responsible and expeditious disposal" by "*and the programmes for necessary disposal*".

Paragraph 18

To destroy *determined* surplus small arms and light weapons *in accordance with National Laws and procedures*. Surplus weapons retained for other purposes will be *well stored and accounted for*.

Paragraph 19

In the interests of public awareness-raising and confidence-building, States to carry out public destination events where necessary.

Paragraph 25

As essential to encourage negotiations with the aim of concluding legally binding instruments and, where they do exist, ratification and full implementation of legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

Paragraph 29

To prevent and remove, *bearing in mind the unique characteristics, circumstances and magnitude of the problem in each region*, avoidable inconsistencies or incoherence between various measures and procedures at the regional, subregional and global levels which could undermine the overall effectiveness of preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

Paragraph 30

Regions are encouraged to develop adequate measures to ensure transparency and confidence-building with a view to combating their illicit trade *at the global level*.

Paragraph 32

To request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, *in accordance with established practices*, on small arms and light weapons, including national reports, at appropriate intervals, on implementation of the Programme of Action.

Paragraph 37

Add to the text: "*and penalties for breaches*".

Section III**Paragraph 1**

We, the States participating in the Conference, recognize that the responsibility for solving the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects falls on all States, *regional organizations and the international community*, regardless of their role in the situation.

Paragraph 3

Rephrase the phrase to include "financial, technical and other appropriate support": The international community undertakes to render *financial, technical and other appropriate support*, to the extent possible, to enable the implementation of the measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects as contained in the Programme of Action.

Paragraph 5

"*States, international and regional organizations* should establish and/or build upon established partnerships *and cooperation* to share *vital* resources and information on the illicit arms trade in small and light weapons in all its aspects.

Paragraph 10

Insert the word "*illegal*" between the words "of" and "small arms" in line 3.

Section IV

Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Paragraph 1 (b)

The United Nations is recommended to convene a meeting of States, regional and subregional organizations and other international organizations on a biennial basis to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

Paragraph 1 (c)

To strengthen and further develop measures contained in the Programme of Action, including negotiations of an international *legal* instruments to identify and trace the illegal lines of supply of small arms and light weapons, *strengthening instruments on terrorism and international crime*.

Paragraph 2 (c)

Further encourage non-governmental organizations and civil society *to play a more important role and assist Governments, as appropriate*, in all aspects of international regional, subregional and national efforts to implement this Programme of Action.